

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this patent application, particularly in view of the above Amendment. Currently, Claims 1 and 3-24 are pending. Applicants have amended Claim 13 to include the limitation of Claim 17. Applicants respectfully request cancellation of Claim 17. No new matter has been added by this Amendment.

Telephone Interview Summary

Applicants' undersigned attorney and Examiner Jeff Aftergut conducted a telephone interview on 03 March 2004. Applicants' undersigned attorney would like to thank the Examiner for his courtesy during the interview.

Applicants' undersigned attorney emphasized the cited references' failure to disclose or suggest a conveyor having a vacuum zone with a transverse width about equal to a desired folded transverse width of the body portion in contact with the vacuum zone, as recited in independent Claim 1. Examiner Aftergut agreed that the cited references do not disclose or suggest this limitation. Applicants have added this limitation to independent Claim 13 by way of this Amendment.

Applicants sincerely believe that this patent application is now in condition for allowance and, thus, respectfully request early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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